

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-25

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S E C R E T MAPUTO 1458

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDEV, EGEN, RH
SUBJECT: APPROACH TO DONORS ON ZIMBABWEAN DEVELOPMENT FUND

REF: (A) STATE 304373; (B) STATE 305262

1. I SAW FOREIGN MINISTER CHISSANO THIS MORNING AND ORALLY
CONVEYED REFTEL TALKING POINTS ON ZIMBABWE DEVELOPMENT FUND.
CHISSANO EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR BEING APPRISED OF STATUS
AND PLANS WITH RESPECT TO THE FUND, SAID HE WOULD BRIEF
PRESIDENT MACHEL, AND WOULD BE IN TOUCH WITH ME IF MACHEL
WISHED TO DISCUSS THE MATTER WITH ME.

2. CHISSANO SAID HE DISCERNED A SHIFT FROM WHAT HE HAD
INITIALLY BEEN LED TO BELIEVE (FROM NYERERE) HAD BEEN
FUND'S PURPOSE, I.E. TO COMPENSATE DEPARTING EUROPEANS,
TO WHAT NOW SEEMS TO BE ITS ESSENTIALLY DEVELOPMENT THRUST.
CHISSANO SAID HE HAD NO QUARREL WITH EARLIER TALK OF COMPEN-
SATION FOR EUROPEANS: IF UK WISHED TO COMPENSATE ITS NATIONALS
IN THIS WAY, AND THE U.S. WISHED TO CONTRIBUTE, THAT WAS SOME-
THING FOR THE UK AND U.S. TO DECIDE. HOWEVER, HE WAS
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 MAPUTO 01458 210940Z

PLEASED THAT THE FUND AS EXPLAINED TO HIM TODAY IS INTENDED
PRIMARILY TO FACILITATE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
IN ZIMBABWE. SUCH A DEVELOPMENT FUND, HE SAID, WOULD BE
MOST USEFUL: "WE IN MOZAMBIQUE WOULD HAVE BENEFITED FROM
SUCH A FUND."

3. FOLLOWING MY OBSERVATION THAT THE FUTURE GOVERNMENT OF ZIMBABWE MIGHT WISH TO FACILITATE AFRICAN ACCESS TO LAND AND TO EXPAND EDUCATION AND TRAINING FOR AFRICANS, AND USE THE FUND TO THIS END, CHISSANO ASKED WHETHER THE U.S. AND UK INTENDED TO SPECIFY FOR WHICH PROJECTS THE FUND COULD BE USED. I REPLIED THAT THE PROJECTS THAT I HAD MENTIONED WERE MERELY ILLUSTRATIVE OF THE SORT OF PROJECTS THAT THE FUND MIGHT BE USED TO SUPPORT, STRESSING THAT THE PROGRAMS THAT WOULD BE SUPPORTED BY THE FUND WOULD NOT BE UNILATERALLY DECIDED BY THE DONORS BUT WOULD BE SUBJECT TO NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE FUND AND THE FUTURE GOVERNMENT OF ZIMBABWE. CHISSANO REMARKED THAT THE LAST POINT WAS IMPORTANT. "THE ZIMBABWEAN MUST ESTABLISH THEIR OWN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL POLICIES AND PRIORITIES."

4. ONLY OTHER TALKING POINT WHICH ELICITED COMMENT FROM CHISSANO WAS THE ONE THAT THE FUND SHOULD ALSO BENEFIT SKILLED EUROPEANS WHO WISHED TO STAY IN ZIMBABWE. CHISSANO SAID THIS WAS A GOOD POINT. "ALL ZIMBABWEANS, BLACK AND WHITE, WHO DECIDE TO STAY IN ZIMBABWE SHOULD BE TREATED EQUALLY. THERE SHOULD BE NO SPECIAL PRIVILEGES FOR EITHER WHITES OR BLACKS."

5. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH I WAS NOT SUCCESSFUL IN ARRANGING A MEETING WITH MACHEL TO CONVEY TALKING POINTS, MEETING WITH CHISSANO ACCOMPLISHED ITS INTENDED PURPOSE OF APPRISING GPRM DIRECTLY OF SIGNIFICANT U.S./UK INITIATIVES WITH RESPECT TO RHODESIAN DEVELOPMENTS.
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